

FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION
AIRTRAFFIC CONTROL/AIRWAY FACILITIES HUMAN FACTORS
FY 2001 APPROPRIATION

	<u>Amount (\$000)</u>
Budget Estimate	\$9,950,000
House Bill	\$9,950,000
Senate Bill	\$8,000,000
Recommended Conference	\$9,950,000

HOUSE ACTION

The Committee supports the Presidents request

SENATE ACTION

“The Committee recommends \$8,000,000 for this program, the same level appropriated in fiscal year 2000.”

CONFERENCE RECOMMENDATION

The Department supports the House recommendation. Without this necessary funding, key planned high fidelity human-in-the-loop simulations will be cancelled that would provide critical information on controller performance and error management associated with new air traffic control decision support aids and procedures. Specific concerns involve changes in controller roles and responsibilities and associated impacts to workload and situation awareness. Other projects will be impacted by delays including incomplete development of tools and approaches for the study of operational errors in air traffic control operations. The development and ability to disseminate educational materials addressing the mitigation of fatigue in the Air Traffic Controller workforce will be slowed. The program will be degraded in its ability to handle computer-human interface assessments and rapid prototyping projects associated with the ongoing research program. In sum, there will be incomplete data and understanding of human performance impacts thereby increasing the risk that intended safety and efficiency benefits would not be realized.